

Public Notice

Public Notice

P-3090
ORDINANCE NO. 1981
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGRADING ARTICLE VII ENTITLED "GRADING OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE 1954" AND NEW CHAPTER 27 RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT; REGRADING OF A PERMIT FOR GRADING ON OR STOCKPILING ON LAND OWNED BY THE CITY; ESTABLISHING FEES, BONDS AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERMIT PROVIDED IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE PERMIT; ESTABLISHING SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR EXCAVATIONS, SLOPES AND FILLS AND FOR SUPERVISED GRADING.

The City Council of the City of Torrance does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Article VII entitled "Grading of Chapter 25 of "The Code of the City of Torrance, 1954" is hereby amended as follows:

That Chapter 27 entitled "Grading" is hereby added to "The Code of the City of Torrance, 1954" to read in its entirety:

**CHAPTER 27
GRADING**

Article I. Purpose and Scope
Sec. 27.1. The purpose of this chapter is to safeguard site, land, property and public welfare by establishing minimum requirements for grading operations and procedures to which these requirements may be referred.

Sec. 27.2. Scope.

This chapter sets forth rules and regulations for supervised excavation, grading, and earthwork construction, including fills or embankments, excavations, earthmoving, demolition, slopes of all proposed grading shown by contours and other means.

A confirmation of the quantity and quality of materials involved and estimated starting and completion dates.

Detailed plans of all drainage and earthwork work to be done on the property, where applicable, is required to be submitted to the city engineer for performance of the work.

The city engineer may require any other means, drawings, or calculations of the existing ground surface, the proposed work to be done on the property, and estimated starting and completion dates.

Any additional means, drawings, or calculations of the existing ground surface, the proposed work to be done on the property, and estimated starting and completion dates shall be submitted to the city engineer for performance of the work.

Sec. 27.3. Definitions.

Sect. 27.3.1. Grade.

Grade is the solid undisturbed rock in place either in natural or man-made deposits of gravel, sand, or soil.

Sec. 27.3.2. Certify or certification.

Certify or certification shall mean the specific inspections and tests which have been performed and the results compiled with the applicable requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 27.3.3. Engineering geology.

Engineering geology is the application of geological, soil engineering, and hydrologic engineering problems dealing with naturally occurring rock and soil for the purposes of assuring that geologic features are recognized and adequately interpreted in engineering practice.

Sec. 27.3.4. Existing grade.

Existing grade is the elevation of the existing ground surface in excavating or filling.

Sec. 27.3.5. Fill.

Fills or deposits of soil, rock, and other materials placed by man.

Sec. 27.3.6. Finsih grade.

Finish grade is the final elevation of the building site.

Sec. 27.3.7. Grade.

Rough grade is an approximate elevation of the ground surface conforming to the proposed site.

Sec. 27.3.8. Site.

Site is any lot or parcel of land or contiguous combination of lots or parcels of land upon which grading is performed or permitted.

Sec. 27.3.9. Soil.

Soil is all earth material of whatever origin that overcomes bedrock.

Sec. 27.3.10. Soils engineering.

Soils engineering shall mean the application of the principles of mechanics in the investigation and analysis of the engineering properties of earth materials.

Sec. 27.3.11. Acceptable soil engineer.

Acceptable soil engineer shall mean a civil engineer licensed under the State of California and acceptable to the city engineer as an expert in soil engineering.

Sec. 27.3.12. Stakeout.

Stakeout is any amount of material stored upon a lot not in compliance with the grading provisions of this chapter.

ARTICLE II. Permits.

Sec. 27.3.13. Permit required for grading.

A. Except as provided in Section 27.37 hereinafter, no permit to grade or cause to be graded any real property in the City without first having obtained from the city engineer a permit therefor, it is required at the time of such grading.

No person owning or controlling any real property in the City shall permit to allow any grading to be done on such property, except as provided in Section 27.37 herein without a permit, and no first, having obtained from the city engineer, which permit is in effect at the time of such grading.

No person shall grade or cause to be graded any real property in the City at any location or in any manner other than as provided in such permit.

Sec. 27.3.14. Exceptions.

Except as provided in section 27.36, nothing in this article shall apply to the following work:

A. An excavation which is less than two feet in depth, or less than one-half horizontal to one vertical, and which involves the removal of less than one hundred cubic yards of material.

B. The minimum quarrying, excavating, processing or stockpiling of rock, sand, gravel, and other materials on a commercial scale when permitted by the City, provided lateral supports or contiguous property is adjacent.

C. The depositing of rubbish and other material at any dump operated by the City or operated lawfully by any other person.

D. A job which does not exceed eighteen inches in vertical depth at the deepest point and does not exceed one-half horizontal to one vertical, and which fill does not have any more than one-half horizontal to one vertical, and which involves the removal of less than one hundred cubic yards of material.

E. Any work done in the streets of the City pursuant to a permit issued under other provisions of the City Charter.

F. An excavation below foundation grade for basements and foundations of a building, retaining wall, or other structure authorized by the city engineer, not shall cause any fall made with the material from such excavation nor exceed five feet after the completion of such structure.

Sec. 27.3.15. Requirement for permit.

The city engineer, before issuing such permit, shall require that there be filed with him a plan, grade, and specifications, and may require engineering, geological reports and may require a soils report.

Sec. 27.3.16. Application.

In the written application the applicant shall set forth among other things:

1. Name, address, and business address;

2. The location and area of each excavation, fill or other work intended to be performed, and the structures intended to be erected;

3. Whether the applicant possesses a valid license issued by the state of California to perform such grading accomplished under

the provisions of sections 27.33, 27.34, Plans and specifications.

The applicant shall submit three sets of plans and specifications, prepared by an acceptable civil engineer licensed by the state of California and shall show the following:

1. A sketch map or other data adequately indicating the site location, including the following:

a. The location of the work to be performed;

b. Location of any buildings or structures existing and/or proposed to be constructed or to be removed;

c. Location of any excavation to be performed;

d. Location of any structure on land of adjacent property owner which may be affected by the work;

e. The location of any drainage system, the topography of the existing ground surface, where applicable, and the proposed work to be done;

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